

Next Meeting: Monday November 25, 2013 at 6:30 PM

**Rights of Way of the Town of Rockport**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of October 28, 2013**  
Rockport Town Hall, Room A  
**Approved**

Meeting called to order 7:00 PM, Marc Prince presiding.

**Members Present:**

Tom Kerans, Bill Mueller, Marcia Siegel, Mary Devaney, Marc and Mary Prince, Jane Moginot, Matt Cegelis

**Members Absent:**

**Associate Members:** Phyllis Krenn, Ted Tarr

**Guests:** Jill Solomon-15 High Street, Joyce Fossa-3 Andrews Hollow

**Announcements:**

Matt Cegelis welcomed as a new member.

Jill Solomon is submitting a letter for the purpose of joining the ROW Committee.

**Management Report**

**Budget**

In an Administrative Meeting held prior to our regular meeting, we reviewed our budget and expenses. It was agreed that we will request our budget be increased to \$5000.00, an amount which more accurately reflects what is currently needed to meet our responsibilities. Marc presented a report he will submit to the Finance Committee.

**Minutes of 9/23/2013**

Corrected and Approved.

**Old Business**

**Reeds Lane**

More chips have been delivered. Help will be needed in spreading them.

**Public Footpaths off Phillips Avenue**

**Los Angeles**

Waiting on information from Bill James.

**Atlantic Path**

The Path still needs some work. Bill is in contact with Matt Natti, who briefly appeared at the meeting to submit his bill and final estimate.

We can clear Atlantic Path through Sayers property just to Cagnina's property up to the dead end. We are not allowed to clear the path over Cagnina's property. We had a previous agreement with Mr. Cagnina that he would clear the path which runs over his property. It does not appear to have been cleared this year.

**Hooper Property**

We studied the area on a layered map showing the property and paths which are located at the

end of Gott Lane (Gott Avenue).

Current Owner:

The Hooper Real Estate Trust Bayard Cobb, Trustee

Ted Tarr pointed out that Town of Rockport owns the rocks in front of the house. Mr. Hooper closed the alternative trail which had been constructed to keep people from walking in front of the house. Storm damage has made it very difficult to traverse the rocks. It was suggested we ask the new owners if they wish for the trail to run on the rocks in front of the house or on the old trail behind the house. Ted recommends that the old path be cleared and reopened so the Atlantic Path will be continuous to Halibut Point. For legal purposes, the Town administrator is the only one who can negotiate the path.

Matt and Bill thought it might be helpful for a ROW member to contact the new owners directly. A motion to do that was made and defeated. Dissenters believe it will be more effective to have all contact be through the Town Administrator's office.

### **Andrews Hollow**

Joyce Fossa, 3 Andrews Hollow, stated that the Town Right of Way ends at her back yard. Hikers who have attempted to continue walking have been stopped at the next property. Joyce requested clarification regarding the extended path which crosses the property of Mrs. Nina Fieldsteel, 5 Andrews Hollow. Apparently, this issue has come up before and the path which is on the property of Mrs. Fieldsteel is not a public right of way.

### **Delamater Sanctuary**

Marcia reported she walked the trails with Mary and Gil. Gil has cleared and marked major paths, but Marcia noted there is confusion where the trails split. Ted commented that a boardwalk is needed at an important connection. What used to be a popular trail is now impassable.

Cape Ann Trail Stewards is planning to help Gil with further clearing and the marking of trails. Emails were sent to ROW members describing the project and requesting cooperation between CATS and ROW.

### **Kieran Preserve**

Ted Tarr has cleared the trail from Straitsmouth to Marmon Way. CATS is also planning to help clear trails in this area.

### **South Woods**

A forest fire has destroyed 20 acres near Rum Rock Lake. Matt Cegelis helped fight the fire and showed pictures of the damage. He stated that the fire continues to burn underground. The cause of the fire is unknown. It was discovered and reported to firefighters by a pilot who saw smoke while flying over the area.

A No Trespassing sign at Rum Rock Lake near Cape Pond was reported by Gil and Matt. We need more information on this.

### **Hillside Road**

Boulders and the wall are gone. There is now complete access to the road. No one was able to reach Joe Parady to find out how this came about. We still need to decide what to do about the overgrown Right of Way path.

**Meeting adjourned 8:05 PM**

**Next Meeting:**

Monday, November 28, 7:00 PM, Town Hall, Conf. Rm. A

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Devaney